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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re the application of:

Applicant : McCollough, Jr., Norman D.  
Filing Date : October 19, 2004  
Appl. No. : 10/711,998  
Examiner : Patel, Dharti  
Art Unit : 2836  
Confirmation No.: : 5997  
Customer No. : 47948

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

This Amendment and Response is in reply to the Office Action mailed December 16, 2005, concerning the above captioned application, setting a shortened statutory response date of March 16, 2006. It is not believed that any extension of time is required in which to provide this response.

The style of this Amendment and follows the Notice in the Federal Register of June 30, 2003 (68 FR 38611-38630) amending 37 CFR 1.121.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin at page 2 of this paper.

**Applicant's Response** begins at page 4 of this paper.